

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP  
29 MECHANIC STREET  
WIND GAP, PA 18091  
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The Public Hearing on the Proposed Amendment to the Borough Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President, Scott Parsons, at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Councilmen: Jon Faust, Kerry Gassler, Dave Hess, George Hinton, Joe Weaver and Tony Curcio. Also in attendance were Mayor Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr., Borough Solicitor Ronold Karasek, Borough Engineer Brian Pysner and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BOROUGH ZONING ORDINANCE.**

This hearing was recorded and transcribed by a stenographer.

The hearing began at 7:30 p.m. and concluded at 7:56 p.m.

**On motion** by Jon Faust to direct the Borough Zoning Officer to review the zoning ordinance for buffering requirements for adjoining properties and seconded by Joe Weaver. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

The regular Council meeting of Tuesday, January 20, 2009 commenced at 8:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one appeared before Council at this time.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr. reported that the Police responded to 159 calls in the month of December 2008 for a total of 1,674 for the year. The next Slate Belt Council of Government meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at the old elementary school in Washington Township.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Scott Parsons informed Council that he will maintain the same committee chairs for this year and asked Council to inform him if there are any comments or problems he needs to address. Dave Hess will be the liaison to the Wind Gap Municipal Authority.

1. Streets – George Hinton, Jon Faust, Kerry Gassler. George reported that there has been a lot of snow and ice and the street department has been advised to plow the streets from curb to curb. The truck involved in the accident has been replaced. George asked if any councilmen are receiving calls about the snow removal to forward them to him. He stated that there was a water main break this morning on West West Street. Louise added that Selective Insurance has declared the 1980 International Dump Truck a total loss. They will forward a check to the Borough for \$5,100 and an additional \$500 for the towing cost once they have received the title for the truck. The insurance company picked up the truck a week ago.

2. Fire Company – Jon Faust reported the Fire Company responded to 15 calls in December for a total of 204 for the year. The Fire Company has enrolled in the Bucks County College for training purposes.
3. EMS – Kerry Gassler reported that the Ambulance Corps responded to 60 calls in December for a total of 701 for the year or 206 over the yearly average. There was a problem with the oil gelling into the furnace. George and the plumber temporarily fixed the pipe problem. The plumber suggested moving the air handler from over the crew room into the bay area sometime in the spring to avoid this problem in the future.
4. Park – Joe Weaver reported that the Park board met. The park board wanted to inform Council that the new zoning district map is missing a piece of land designated as recreation on West and Center Streets. Ralph Stampone has resigned from the park board. A letter of thanks will be sent to Ralph. The board only has four members and is requesting the vacancies be announced on the website, in the newsletter, on the park sign at the corner of Broadway and Third Street, and possibly in the free papers.
5. Planning Commission – Scott Parsons reported that a meeting was held to discuss property owned by Kerry Gassler and his intention to subdivide the property. Ron Karasek stated that any covenants imposed on the original plan would be on the drawings. The Borough has been unsuccessful in locating previous files or drawings of this plan. Kerry will ask his engineer, George Collura, if he has the original paperwork
6. Sewer Authority – Scott Parsons reported that the sewer bill for 2009 has increased slightly.
7. Police – George Hinton had nothing to report.
8. Property – Jon Faust stated that a meeting was held on Monday and a site visit was done around different properties currently owned by the Borough. They decided that another meeting would be held to discuss further ideas. All organizations involved will hold a meeting next week.
9. Zoning – Tony Curcio reported that no new applications have been received so there will be no meeting in February.
10. 911 – Tony Curcio requested the listing of serial numbers for all pagers and monitors from the Fire Company and the Ambulance Corps.

## **BOARD VACANCIES**

A. Planning Commission – The planning commission currently has three openings on the commission. Heather Craig sent a letter of interest originally for the vacant seat on Council, but would be interested on serving on the planning commission.

**On motion** by Tony Curcio to appoint Heather Craig to the Planning Commission with her term set to expire December 31, 2010 and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**On motion** by Jon Faust to appoint Richard Getz to the Planning Commission with his term set to expire on December 31, 2011 and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**On motion** by Jon Faust to appoint Scott Parsons to the Planning Commission with his term set to expire on December 31, 2009 and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Park Board – The park board currently has openings on the board. Ralph Stampone submitted his letter of resignation. A letter of thanks will be sent to Ralph. The park board has asked that the vacancies be announced in the Borough's newsletter, on the website, in the free papers, and on the sign. George suggesting appointing a representative from the Wind Gap Athletic Association to fill a vacancy and that way the AA would be involved directly with the park board.

C. Zoning Hearing Board – Two terms expired on December 31, 2008, Kelly Ronalds and Deb Roseberry. Robert Matlock submitted a letter of interest to serve on the board. The Zoning Hearing Board terms are for three years.

**On motion** by Tony Curcio to re-appoint Kelly Ronalds, re-appoint Deborah Roseberry as an alternate and appoint Robert Matlock as an alternate with all three serving terms set to expire on December 31, 2011 and seconded by George Hinton. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Wind Gap Municipal Authority – The Wind Gap Municipal Authority has two openings on the board. Borough Council received a letter from the Authority recommending that Paul Levits and Ronald DeCesare be re-appointed to the board. Council received a letter of interest from Marguerite Mullin.

**On motion** by Tony Curcio to appoint Marguerite Mullin to the Wind Gap Municipal Authority for a term of five years set to expire December 31, 2013 and seconded by Dave Hess. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**On motion** by Kerry Gassler to re-appoint Paul Levits to the Wind Gap Municipal Authority to a term set to expire on December 31, 2013 and seconded by Joe Weaver. Roll call vote taken. In favor: J. Weaver, T. Curcio, J. Faust, K. Gassler, D. Hess, G. Hinton. Opposed: S. Parsons. Motion carried with a vote of 6-1. A letter of thanks will be sent to Ron DeCesare for his years of service on the board.

11. Per Capita Tax. Louise Firestone explained that Berkheimer, the company who prints the bills on behalf of the Borough, contacted the office to inform them that the list of residents who are exonerated from paying a per capita was changed by the school district. The school district does not collect a per capita from retired, 65 and over residents and those names were deleted from the master list. Unfortunately, the municipalities in the Pen Argyl Area School District use the list to collect their pre capita tax. The list includes all residents who have become exonerated for several reasons, military duty, moving, death, retirement, etc. so it will be difficult to re-create the list to get the bills out this year. The lost revenue could total a little over \$2,000 for 2009. Council will have to decide how to proceed for next year.

12. Kerry Gassler informed Council that he was approached by the mailman regarding the snow covered sidewalk up on Lehigh across from the PetroMart. Mayor Mogilski will speak to the Police Chief tomorrow.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 8:34 p.m. to discuss personnel issues. Council reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

**On motion** by Kerry Gassler to increase the Borough Administrator and the Zoning Officer/Administrative Assistant's hourly rate by 50 cents effective January 1, 2009 and seconded by Tony Curcio. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**On motion** by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of January 20, 2009. Council agreed unanimously. The meeting of January 20, 2009 adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

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Louise Firestone, Borough Administrator